

ailments.—Black's Pulmonic Syrup, a water-alcohol solution of ichthyol, glycerin and sugar.—Walker's Pain Destroyer, an alcoholic solution of oil of mustard, chloroform, opium and collodion.—Musterole, a mixture of lard or some similar material with oil of mustard, menthol and camphor.—Snyder's Bitters, claimed to eradicate scrofulous humors, syphilitic affections, cancerous humors and many other ailments.—"5 Drops," a mixture of eucalyptol (or a eucalyptol-containing oil), camphor, safrol, terpineol and eugenol (or an oil containing those ingredients, such as camphor oil).—Dr. Stuart's Specific Drops, a mixture of camphor, alcohol, mercuric iodid and turpentine. (Jour. A. M. A., Jan. 20, 1917, p. 214-215.)

**Casta-Flora.**—The Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry reports that Casta-Flora, put out by the Wm. S. Merrell Chemical Co., is one of those complex preparations which are offered to the medical profession with plausible arguments in support of the claims made. The Council finds the claims made for this mixture of drugs—which is said to contain or represent chestnut leaves, passion flower, gelsemium, elecampane, "Iodized lime," menthol and yerba santa—and for the individual ingredients thereof, extravagant and misleading. Even if the ingredients, or certain of them, were useful in the treatment of those conditions for which Casta-Flora is recommended, no one could possibly foresee the effects in any given case from this jumble of drugs. The Council holds that the prescribing of such mixtures, the action of which cannot be foreseen, is plain charlatanism and declares Casta-Flora inadmissible to New and Nonofficial Remedies. (Jour. A. M. A., Jan. 27, p. 303.)

#### THE JANUARY MEETING OF THE STATE BOARD OF HEALTH.

The State Board of Health held its regular monthly meeting in Sacramento on January 6, 1917. There were present President George E. Ebright and Doctors Edward F. Glaser, Adelaide Brown, Robert A. Peers and Wilbur A. Sawyer.

The board discussed public health legislation and placed its approval on the proposed acts creating state health districts and enabling communities to join together to form a local health district for the purpose of maintaining a health department under a full-time health officer. Approval was given to a number of other measures.

A resolution was passed that the ruling of the State Board of Health to the effect that sewage or sewage polluted water shall not be used for irrigating vegetables shall not apply to the irrigation of sugar beets.

Permits were given to the cities of Escondido and Redlands and to the St. Helena Water Company to supply water for domestic purposes.

A permit was given to the city of San Diego to discharge sewage from Ocean Beach into False Bay near its outlet into the Pacific Ocean.

The board decided that the State tuberculosis subsidy should not be paid for any period during which the patient was not actually in a tuberculosis ward which is on the accredited list.

One nurse was granted a certificate as registered nurse through reciprocity. Twenty-one hospitals, having been inspected and found to meet the requirements of the board in full, were placed on the list of permanently accredited schools.

The food and drug cases were heard and action taken. Citations had been sent in 126 cases of alleged violation of the Foods and Drug Acts. A committee consisting of the Secretary of the

Board, the Director of the Bureau of Foods and Drugs, and the Attorney for the Board, was appointed to investigate the handling of eggs by wholesalers, with a view to determining why so many stale eggs were being sold as fresh eggs in violation of the law.

W. A. SAWYER, Secretary.

#### THE FEBRUARY MEETING OF THE STATE BOARD OF HEALTH.

The regular monthly meeting of the State Board of Health was held in Sacramento on February 2 and 3, 1917. The following members were present: Drs. George E. Ebright, president; Fred F. Gundrum, Edward F. Glaser, Adelaide Brown, Robert A. Peers and Wilbur A. Sawyer. The meeting extended through the evening of February 2 and the forenoon of February 3.

The case of a physician, who had taken down a quarantine sign for scarlet fever without authorization by the health officer, was considered and closed. The physician's attorney had appeared before the Board and a communication had been received from the physician, stating that he had no intention to disregard the quarantine laws or usurp the authority of the local health officer.

By formal resolution, a certificate as registered nurse was denied to Bertha Eastland on the ground that she had not appeared and passed the required examination in person, but that she had been impersonated at that examination by some unknown person, and, when given an opportunity to appear before the Board and deny these facts, she had failed to make her appearance.

A certificate as registered nurse was granted to one applicant through reciprocity. Seventeen training schools for nurses, having been inspected by the Director of the Bureau of Registration of Nurses and found to meet the requirements of the Board in full, were placed on the list of accredited schools.

After considering the affidavit of a local deputy registrar, who had been charged with violation of the state registration act inasmuch as he had issued a burial permit for a death occurring outside his jurisdiction, the Board dismissed the case with reprimand and warning.

After a hearing, the Board, on the recommendation of the Bureau of Sanitary Engineering, issued a permit to the Marin Municipal Water District to supply water to the consumers within the district, provided that rules for the protection of the watershed be enforced. Permits to supply water were granted also to the San Jose Water Works to supply water to San Jose, Los Gatos, Saratoga and contiguous territory; and to the Union Water Company to supply water to San Leandro and the Elmhurst and Fitchburg districts of Oakland. A permit was given to the Colony Holding Corporation to dispose of sewage through underground tile near Atascadero Creek.

On the recommendation of the Director of the Bureau of Tuberculosis, the newly constructed tuberculosis ward of the Shasta County Hospital was placed on the list of hospitals eligible for the state tuberculosis subsidy.

Many other minor matters were considered and acted upon.

Hearings were held in a number of cases of alleged sale of stale eggs as fresh eggs and most of these were referred to district attorneys for prosecution. Numerous other food and drug cases were considered after due hearing and were passed upon according to their merits.

W. A. SAWYER, Secretary.